

## SUPPLEMENTARY TABLE 2. REGIONAL VARIATION IN SPAWNING FOR CORAL SPECIES ON WESTERN AUSTRALIAN REEFS

Seasons and months in which coral species are thought to spawn based on the available data; evidence for some species is likely biased by issues with identification and methodology. Species do not spawn during all months below in every year, but have been inferred to spawn in the months below during one or more years. For example, the primary month of spawning on many reefs during autumn is March and during spring is October, but spawning can also occur in April and November due to split-spawning or a late full moon during some years. Similarly, within species an equal proportion of colonies do not spawn during each month. For example, in species that spawn during autumn and spring across Western Australia, a higher proportion of colonies typically spawn during autumn. Regions are colour coded according to Figure 1. Seasons and months are: Spring (Spr), September (s), October (o), November (n); Summer (Sum), December (d), January (j), February (f); Autumn (Aut), March (m), April (a), May (m). Spawning has not been recorded during Winter months (June, July, August) in Western Australia and they have been excluded. Species names are presented as per the original literature and taxonomic revisions are in Supplementary Table 3.

Based on the available data, the sampling design and the methods used, confidence in the inferred months of spawning was ranked qualitatively according to:

- 1** Confident. Evidence based on the presence of pigmented eggs in colonies prior to the predicted dates of spawning in many colonies, sites and years; the presence and absence of pigmented eggs in many colonies around the predicted dates of spawning; direct observations of spawning in multiple colonies.
- 2** Likely. Evidence based on the presence of pigmented eggs in many colonies prior to the predicted dates but with less spatial and temporal replication; most evidence indicates spawning during this month but with some contradictory data among studies.
- 3** Possible. Evidence based on the presence of large but unpigmented eggs several weeks prior to the predicted dates of spawning; contradictory data among studies due to sampling design, methodology or species identification.
- 4** Unlikely. No evidence of spawning; pigmented or large unpigmented eggs absent from samples of many colonies, sites and years within several weeks of the predicted dates of spawning.

















